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CIA SHIFTS TOP OFFICIALS
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WASHINGTON

FOUR TOP LEVEL CIA OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN SHIFTED TO NEW POSITIONS STARTING JULY 1, IN WHAT A SPOKESMAN INSISTED WEDNESDAY WAS A 'ROUTINE ROTATION' AND NOT RELATED TO AGENCY ACTION IN CENTRAL AMERICA.

CIA SPOKESMAN DALE PETERSON SAID CONTRARY TO REPORTS, THE SHAKE-UP WAS NOT DUE TO ANY 'DISSATISFACTION OVER CENTRAL AMERICAN POLICY.'

'WE ARE CALLING IT A ROUTINE ROTATION OF HIGH LEVEL OFFICIALS WHICH WAS ANNOUNCED TO OTHER AGENCY EMPLOYEES ABOUT A WEEK AND A HALF AGO,' HE SAID.

HOWEVER, SEN. PATRICK LEAHY, D-VT., SUGGESTED ONE OF THE MOVES WAS A REWARD FOR 'NOT TELLING ANYONE (IN CONGRESS) ANYTHING.'

THE CIA HAS RECENTLY COME UNDER FIRE FOR COVERT OPERATIONS IN NICARAGUA INCLUDING FOR THEIR ROLE IN ASSISTING REBELS IN THE MINING OF HARBORS, WHICH RESULTED IN DAMAGE TO NEUTRAL SHIPPING.

THE CIA HAS ALSO BEEN ACCUSED OF MEDDLING IN EL SALVADOR'S ELECTIONS TO THE BENEFIT OF RECENTLY ELECTED PRESIDENT JOSE NAPOLEON DUARTE.

DUARTE DEFEATED RIGHT-WING LEADER ROBERTO D'AUBUISSON, WHO HAS BEEN ACCUSED OF HAVING LINKS TO DEATH SQUADS. THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION HAD PREFERRED DUARTE, A MODERATE, OVER D'AUBUISSON.

PETERSON ANNOUNCED THAT CLAIR GEORGE, DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE LIASIONS, WILL BECOME DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS IN CHARGE OF CLANDESTINE COLLECTION OF INFORMATION AND COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE.

CHARLES BRIGGS, CURRENTLY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS OF THE AGENCY WILL BECOME THE NEW DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE LIASIONS REPLACING GEORGE.

JOHN STEIN, DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS, WILL BECOME THE INSPECTOR GENERAL, REPLACING JAMES TAYLOR.

TAYLOR, IN TURN, WILL TAKE OVER BRIGGS' JOB AS DIRECTOR OF DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS.

CIA DIRECTOR WILLIAM CASEY AND HIS DEPUTY, JOHN MCNAMARA WILL REMAIN IN THE TWO TOP POSITIONS IN THE CIA.

SEN. DANIEL MOYNIHAN, D, N.Y., RANKING DEMOCRAT ON THE SENATE INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE, CALLED GEORGE'S MOVE "A PROMOTION."

'ONE CAN ALWAYS THINK THAT SOME ELUSIVE PURPOSE IS INVOLVED,' HE ADDED. 'I'M PREPARED TO THINK THAT FOUR SEASONED PROFESSIONAL PERSONS HAVE BEEN MOVED ABOUT JUST ON THE GENERAL PRINCIPLE THAT IT IS GOOD TO DO SOMETHING ELSE.'

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